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Furman gets Hewlett funds to study school successes

Foundation awards Riley Institute \$400,000

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation has awarded the Riley Institute at Furman University \$400,000 to support its continuing research and policy programming on public education in South Carolina.

The foundation gave the Riley Institute a \$600,000 grant in 2005 to fund an 18-month study of public education that was unveiled last fall. The newest grant will support additional research that focuses on linking the best practices in education to the findings from the first Riley Institute study, according to a press statement from Furman.

"Our initial study of public education in the state told us what South Carolinians want in a public education system for their children," said Don Gordon, director of the Riley Institute at Furman.

"The second grant will allow us to link their ideas with the most effective and highly validated best practices in South Carolina and beyond. Policymakers will know not only what our citizens want for our students, but also the best and most efficient ways to get there."

Gordon said researchers will highlight programs that are currently working in South Carolina, as well as study other regional success stories in public education.
